

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM QUALITY CONTROL POLICY MEMO

Region: ALRO
Index No.: QC-03-01
Provision: Handbook 310

Subject: Revisions and Additions to the Procedures of the Quality Control (QC) Review Handbook for Fiscal Year (FY) 2004

There will not be a new 310 Handbook printed for FY 2004. Attached are the changes that will be made available in printed format and distributed at a later date.

On April 29, 2003, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) published a final regulation entitled "*Food Stamp Program: Anticipated Income and Reporting Changes*." The provisions of this rule require the modification of FNS 310 Handbook in several areas, however, the review procedures for most of the changes already existed in the Handbook in Appendix A as common waivers. Until final page changes are issued, States who have chosen to implement any of the options covered by this new regulation can follow the procedures in Appendix A in the current Handbook.

The anticipated income rule has identified implementation dates by which the rule must be implemented. Until the required dates have passed, you can use the current FNS 310 procedures to review cases. For simplicity and to avoid making handbook changes twice, we will make the changes in Chapter 10 – Income for use following the required implementation of the rule. Thus unless you have implemented the rule, you will follow the current FNS 310 requirements in the October sample month. Sample months that follow will be reviewed by either the old or the new procedures as required by the regulation.

The page changes will be made available for downloading in the FNS Payment Accuracy Quality Control (PAQC) Partner Web and the QC page of the FNS website. If you do not have access to the Partner Web, contact your FNS Regions QC Supervisor. They will be able to get you Partner Web access or provide the electronic files of the page changes.

Signed 9/30/2003

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